

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

Nord et al.

Serial Number:

09/672,152

Filed:

September 27, 2000

For:

**CUSHIONED RUBBER FLOOR MAT
ARTICLE AND METHOD**

Group Art Unit:

1772

Examiner:

Unknown

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to a first Office Action on the merits, please amend the above application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, lines 5 – 7, delete the paragraph "This application is.....August 13, 1999." and
replace it with the following paragraph:

A1 "This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application serial number
09/653,785, filed September 1, 2000."

Page 2, line 3, delete the paragraph: "All U.S. patent cited herein are hereby fully
incorporated by reference." and replace it with:

A2 "All U.S. patents cited herein are hereby fully incorporated by reference.
U.S. patent applications serial number 09/374,707, filed August 13, 1999, and serial number
09/374,321, filed August 13, 1999, are each hereby fully incorporated by reference herein."

MARKED UP COPY**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, lines 5 – 7, **delete** the paragraph: [This application is.... August 13, 1999.] and **replace** it with the following paragraph:

- -This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application serial number 09/653,785, filed September 1, 2001.- -

Page 2, line 3, **delete** the paragraph: [All U.S. patent cited herein are hereby fully incorporated by reference.] and **replace** it with:

- -All U.S. patents cited herein are hereby fully incorporated by reference.

U.S. patent applications serial number 09/374,707, filed August 13, 1999, and serial number 09/374,321, filed august 13, 1999, are each hereby fully incorporated by reference herein.- -

Page 33, line 23, **delete** [Also, it is contemplated that tat least the top layer of the floor mat can include anti-] and **replace** it with - -Also, it is contemplated that at least the top layer of the floor mat can include anti- - -.

IN THE CLAIMS

4. (Amended) The floor mat of at least one of Claims 1, 2, and 3, wherein at least one of said protrusions integrated within said mat structure has a cross section shape of at least one of circular, oval, elliptical, octagonal, rounded, and polygonal.

5. (Amended) The floor mat of at least one of Claims 1, 2, and 3, wherein at least one of said protrusions integrated within said rubber mat structure is located on the top surface of said